PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY VETERANS' RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 19.84, <u>Wis. Stats.</u> a regular meeting of the **Brown County Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee** was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2009, at 5:15 p.m., in Room 201 of the Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

PRESENT: Chair Krueger, Jim Haskins, Duane "Snake" Pierce.

EXCUSED: Sherry Steenbock, Don Bettine, Kristen Verhaagh, John Walschinski.

ALSO PRESENT: Jerry Polus (CVS), Media.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jack Krueger at 5:16 p.m.

- 2. <u>INVOCATION BY JIM HASKINS</u>
- 3. <u>APPROVE/MODIFY AGENDA</u>

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DUANE PIERCE AND SECONDED BY JIM HASKINS TO APPROVE. Vote taken. <u>MOTION CARRIED</u> UNANIMOUSLY.

4. APPROVE/MODIFY MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2009

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM HASKINS AND SECONDED BY DUANE PIERCE TO APPROVE. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. REPORT FROM JIM HASKINS ON BROWN COUNTY FAIR

No report. Haskins stated that he will attend the Brown County Fair meeting next month.

6. REPORT FROM JACK KRUEGER ON BROWN COUNTY VETERANS COMMISSION FUNDING POSSIBILITY OF SELLING CUPS, BUMPER STICKERS, ETC.

Chair Krueger stated that he had put this item on the Agenda because the Subcommittee had spoken last year about selling cups and bumper stickers and donating the money to the Veterans' Service Office.

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A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM HANSEN AND SECONDED BY DUANE PIERCE FOR JACK KRUEGER TO LOOK INTO AND BRING BACK INFORMATION REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF CUPS AND BUMPER STICKERS. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. REPORT FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Haskins reported that he received a letter from John Walschinski, as Walschinski was unable to attend this meeting, and read the letter to those present. Walschinski included recommendations to the "Nine and 09" program proposed during the January 13, 2009, meeting. Walchinski further indicated that he has been working on a presentation for the Subcommittee called "Our Circle of Hope for Veterans and Their Families." Included with this letter was a possible poster that was discussed by the Subcommittee Members for the "Nine and 09" program.

Duane Pierce reported that the Rolling Thunder motorcycle group is doing a ride on June 20 out of the Pulaski Dairy Queen on Hwy 32—second annual Toys for Tots run with the Marines. Pierce indicated that there may be a band and car show as well. In addition, the Rolling Thunder groups will be doing a POW table ceremony at 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday leading up to the ride. Pierce stated that they are also working on an August 15, 2009, citywide party in Suring. This will be a day-long party at the Trail Site—fun and games, etc. Pierce stated that it is rumored that there will be a Viet Nam Veterans welcome home celebration on May 21-23, 2010, at Lambeau Field called "L.Z. (Landing Zone) Lambeau" sponsored by the Packers and Wisconsin Public Television, that may include displays, the Moving Wall, and possibly Bruce Springsteen in concert.

Haskins mentioned that the Corvette Club is having a Veterans Run; and he will provide the dates at the next meeting.

8. REPORT FROM JERRY POLUS (CVS, IF AVAILABLE) RE: VET ISSUES

Jerry Polus stated that he received an update regarding the Vet Center. A final decision has not been made yet; however, it appears that the new Vet Center will be opening on Ashland Avenue around 9th Street. The target date for the ribbon-cutting ceremony is Memorial Day. Three counselors and an office manager have been hired. Polus should have final details for the next meeting.

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Polus indicated that he would like help in getting the word out to WWII veterans in Brown County concerning the Honor Flight Program. This nationwide, ongoing program provides free trips for WWII veterans to visit the various Veterans' Memorials in Washington, DC. Polus offered to help process applications for interested veterans and further suggested to the representative from the Press Gazette that this opportunity be published in the newspaper. Haskins suggested that posters or announcements could be displayed, especially at businesses frequented by veterans.

Regarding the increase in numbers on the assistance program, Polus stated that there is a budget of \$22,000 for the Veterans' Emergency Fund. This fund is for help with temporary hardships for things like rent, utility bills, foods, travel expenses, etc. Last year \$28,000 was spent with donations covering the balance. This year the projection is \$32,000. The Rolling Thunder just contributed \$1,000 to this fund.

9. SUCH OTHER MATTERS AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW:

Next meeting to be Tuesday, April 14, 2009 @ 5:15 p.m.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM HASKINS AND SECONDED BY DUANE PIERCE TO ADJOURN AT 5:40 p.m. Vote taken. <u>MOTION</u> CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Alexander Recording Secretary